

that the request for an armistice and peace had been transmitted to the Allies and that further action rested with those Governments.

The German reply may or may not prove that Germany will accept such terms of an armistice as may be presented. In this connection the President in his last note said that the power of the Kaiser to control the policy of the empire is unimpaired, by stating that the peace negotiations are being conducted by the German army, in whose hands rests the power to make the final conclusion and to which the military powers also are subject.

This may give added significance to the unofficial report from Berlin via Copenhagen that Gen. Ludendorff, Quartermaster-General of the German army, had resigned. He generally was regarded as the virtual head of the German High Command.

## GERMANS ECHOING CALL FOR REPUBLIC

### Libknecht's Release Signal for Outcry of Workers Against Monarchy.

### REFORM CALLED COMEDY

### "Foreign Countries Should Not Be Deceived," Hoffmann Warns Reichstag.

## "WE NEED PEACE" ADMITS VON PAYER

### He Calls for Honest and Straightforward Policy.

AMSTERDAM, Oct. 27.—In the course of a speech in the Reichstag on Tuesday Friedrich von Payer, the German Vice-Chancellor, said that the enemy's belief and the assertion that the German people were politically deprived of their rights and were so oppressed and dependent on small ruling circles that it constituted a constant danger for the peace of the entire world had been the greatest hindrance to the attainment of peace. This hindrance, he declared, had to be removed, and the Government had instituted far-reaching internal reforms, which were long overdue.

On the previous day the Vice-Chancellor had said: "We need confidence, not merely at home; we need the confidence of foreign countries, even the confidence of our enemies. For we want peace and we need it. Our enemies desire our sincere intention to conclude a peace of justice. We are ready to do this, mainly on the ground of many events in the past, concerning which we cannot take it amiss that they have certain doubts."

"We have therefore no use for any one in the Government who still favors a peace of force more than a peace of justice. What we need in order to be able to exist is a peace of justice and a straightforward policy. That alone can promote our welfare in the future."

## REFORM BILL STRIPS KAISER OF ALL POWER

### Made Subject to Chancellor, Who Is Subject to Reichstag.

AMSTERDAM, Oct. 27.—The Berlin socialist newspaper Vorwarts prints the following text of the reform bill, which includes the following provisions:

First—War can be declared only with the sanction of the Reichstag and the Bundesrat.

Second—The Chancellor can remain in power only so long as he possesses the confidence of the Reichstag.

Third—The Chancellor will be responsible for the political actions of the Kaiser. The Chancellor and the Ministry will be responsible for their tenure of office to the Reichstag and Bundesrat.

Fourth—The appointment, promotion and dismissal of officers of the army and navy can be effective only by the signature of the Chancellor.

The Minister of War will be held responsible for the same by the Reichstag.

Vorwarts in criticizing the German treatment of the Danes and Poles and residents of Alsace-Lorraine, says: "How confidently could we have looked forward to a plebiscite in those parts had not a heinous system been in control of the decision on principles that force is a better cement than affection."

It is now announced officially that Dr. von Dillwig, the Governor of Alsace-Lorraine, and his Secretary of State, Baron von Thiermann, have been retired from office and that they have been gilded with decorations. They did not deserve them. Instead of decorations they ought to be hung around their necks with this inscription: "These are the men who robbed Germany of Alsace-Lorraine's affection." Thus they are exalted in the streets of Alsace-Lorraine towns, and the same should be done with all people who have governed a German land like an enemy country, estranging it from the German Empire."

## TRY TO MAKE WILSON GERMANS' CHAMPION

### Berlin Diplomats Driving a Wedge to Divide Allies.

Special Despatch to The Sun.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27.—That the German Government is seeking through its peace maneuvers to drive a wedge between the United States and the Allies by attempting to make it appear that President Wilson is the champion of the German people, against British and French designs, is clearly indicated in an inspired statement just published by the Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung, the official mouthpiece of the Wilhelmstrasse.

Germany, ignoring all the President says about the lack of faith of the German Government and the demand for the surrender of Kaiserism, etc., assumes that the President is now using his power with the Entente to negotiate terms which Germany apparently regards with complacency.

"We therefore assume," the Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung says after referring to German reforms, "that President Wilson, whose care above all is humanity, is using his influence to reach a positive result in the negotiations with the Allies."

In the first part of the statement this official German organ says:

"The German people are in the midst of rendering secure anew a system the fundamental importance of which President Wilson recognizes. Other peoples have required decades of storming development for this task. It is impossible to solve questions of such importance except in dependence upon an armistice."

When attention was called to this statement to-night it was said that its purpose was obvious. The German Government is trying by every means in its power to cause the United States and France and Great Britain, by attempting to place the President in the role of champion of the German people, to make it impossible for the German people to reach a positive result in the negotiations with the Allies."

Officials note that the German Government seeks to make it appear that peace reforms must necessarily be delayed and that the armistice therefore should not be based on terms which would take into consideration "Germany's efforts at reform."

In former words the more important, in former words, such as elimination of the Kaiser's control, should be left to the future, according to the German Government.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun from the London Times Service.

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THE HAGUE, Oct. 27.—Long delayed despatches from Berlin describe the extraordinary enthusiasm manifested by the people of the city at the news of Dr. von Liebknecht's release from prison. The people cried: "Away with Scheidemann!" "Away with the Reichstag!"

The Rundschau comments: "This is the storm signal whereof we may estimate what awaits us, having regard for the excited feelings of certain misguided sections of the population of our large cities."

The Independent Socialist Hoffmann said in the Reichstag: "The Prussian House of Deputies of the so-called people's government was a comedy. Foreign countries should not be deceived. Let the Kaiser place his sixty chieftains and the Junkers their luxurious apartments at the disposal of our returning warriors."

Hoffmann was called to order amid a disturbance when he asked the house why it had become so modest. He exclaimed: "You seem to wish the King of Prussia should exchange his crown for a tall hat."

Hasse Demands Republic.

Independent Socialist Leader Hasse has spoken in the Reichstag, the word that the working classes are speaking all over Germany to-day. His demand that the monarchy be replaced by a republican form of Government was voiced merely to make a last heroic effort was demanded of them, not to save the fatherland but to save the throne of William II.

"A national gathering together of all forces to repel President Wilson's demands is not possible because the army people would assume that a last heroic effort was demanded of them, not to save the fatherland but to save the throne of William II."

"Unhappily as it feels is to us the Kaiser's despatchment should be forced by foreign Powers, it is less so than the thought that the German people should devote themselves to a war in which they would be indifferent to thousands might be sacrificed and the soil of Germany laid waste as the soil of France unfortunately has been. In the full possession of his power."

"Had the Kaiser followed the example of some of the greatest monarchs of the world, he would have been able to maintain his power free from the stain of blood. He would have been able to maintain his power free from the stain of blood. He would have been able to maintain his power free from the stain of blood."

The utter insincerity of the Reichstag proceedings was exposed as if by a flash of lightning by an interruption of the Independent Socialist Lohndorfer during Naumann's speech. Naumann had been exposing the dual Government that had existed when Chancellor Bethmann-Lindlow declared that the Kaiser had signed the armistice. Naumann threw the house into convulsions of laughter.

Lohndorfer, by his witty question, revealed what every one in Germany knows, namely, that the army and navy commanders are still Germany's rulers.

Appeals to German Honor.

The Rheinische Westfaelische publishes an admonition to the German people to "preserve their honor." They give you a bomb in the face and then befool your men, be many! The blow from the flat on the other side of the sea affects every one who still regards his fatherland as sacred. Your honor is your honor. Give your dearest if the hour demands it. What would it profit you German people if you won the whole world but accepted disgrace to your honor?"

Mysterious hints continue to appear in the German papers concerning the peculiar movement in south Germany. The Frankfurter Zeitung refers to a speech by Herr von Dandl, the Bavarian Premier, last week. It says: "Is not all this anxiety about the rights of the individual States of Germany completely out of place when the integrity or even the existence of the empire must stir all of us to the profoundest depths of anxiety?"

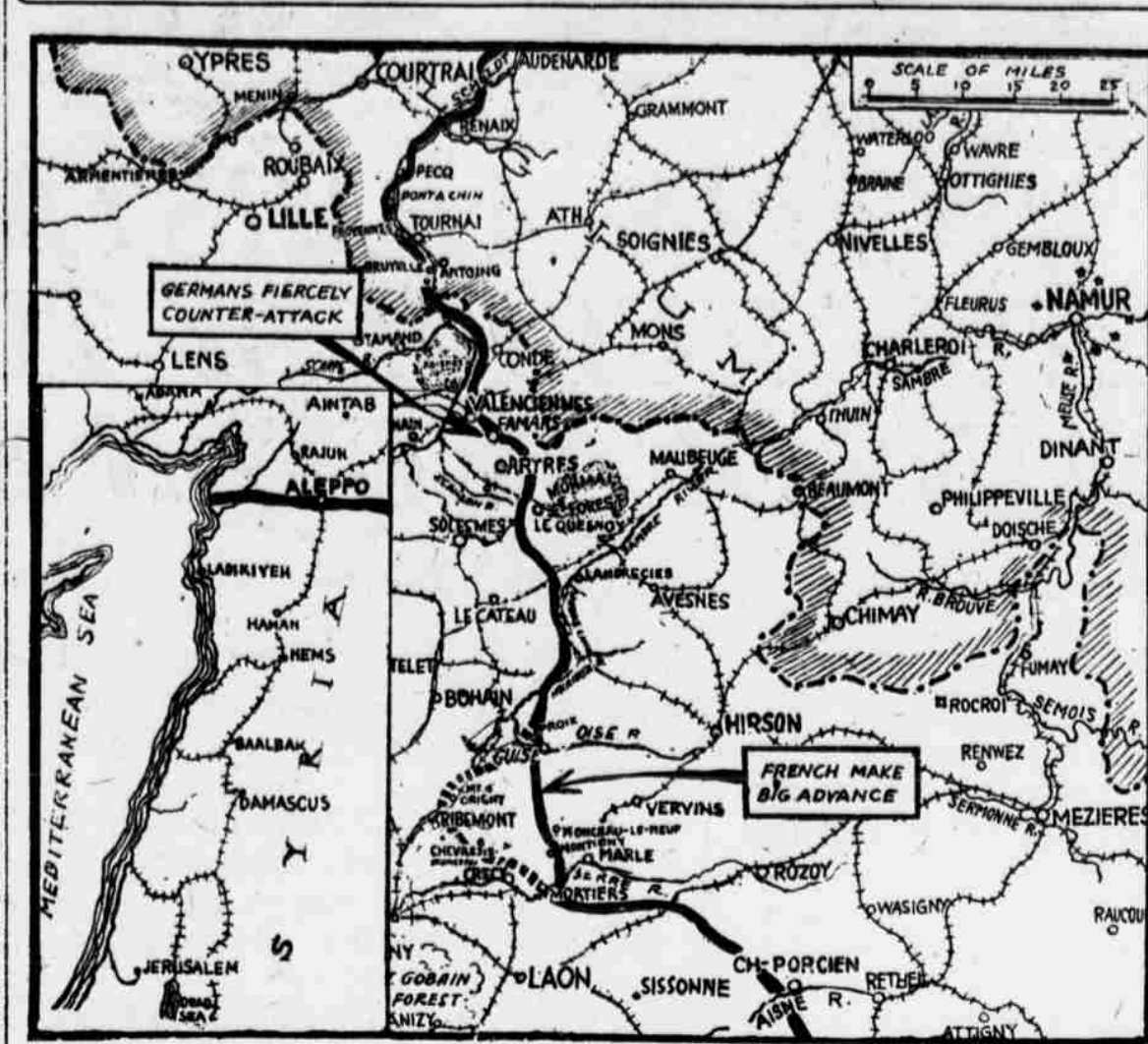
We are firmly convinced that neither the intrigues nor the intrigues of our enemies will succeed in shattering the edifice of the German empire."

An Augsburg telegram to the Frankfurter Zeitung says a committee of Bavarian farmers' union passed a resolution declaring: "The Bavarian Government can only strengthen the feelings of the Bavarian people if it enjoys the necessary independence in political, economic and financial. In the educational domain Bavaria will never be able to fulfill its tasks as long as it remains a part of the German Empire. It is therefore demanded that Bavaria receive back its complete political independence as secured to it by treaties when the empire was founded."

People Curse the War.

A Dutch printer who went to Berlin a couple of months ago in response to far sounding promises says he soon decided to return because of his loss of wealth and weight due to lack of food. The food shortage in Berlin is terrible, he said. "The people get weekly a little more than three pounds of bread, which soon goes sour. The potato ration is seven pounds weekly and the quality is exceedingly bad. What food you do get has small nutritive value. You are

## Where German Line Is Crumbling Before the French Advance.



DRIVING forward at an accelerated rate the French on the point of the great salient, in the sector east of Laon, advanced another five miles on a front of about fifteen miles and reached the outskirts of Guise and the road from that place to Marie, freeing half a dozen villages and taking many prisoners and much material.

Usually the driving in of the point of a salient, in Marshal Foch's tactics, is the last stage in the process and precedes immediately the evacuation of the whole region by the enemy. If the present operation follows precedent a general withdrawal by the Germans from this district may be expected in a few days, if indeed it is not already in progress.

Further north, in the region south of Valenciennes, the Germans are counter attacking fiercely against the British and for the moment have checked the advance.

The small inset map in the lower left hand corner shows the situation of Aleppo, which has been taken by the British, and its relation to Damascus and Jerusalem. Aleppo is the chief railroad centre in Turkey in Asia and its capture by the British means practically the end of Turkish military operations in that region. It is also the chief point on the route to Bagdad, further east, and makes the British hold on this city secure. With Aleppo gone there is little left for the Turks to fight for so far as regards their holdings in Asia Minor.

SLAVS JOYOUS OVER T. R. WILL HELP GET REPLY TO AUSTRIA

Capital of Croatia-Slavonia Decorates Streets in Celebration.

AMSTERDAM, Oct. 27.—Scenes of indescribable enthusiasm occurred at Agram, capital of Croatia-Slavonia, when President Wilson's reply to Austria was made public. Immediately the whole city, which is the Slav headquarters, was decorated with flags and the delighted citizens paraded the streets venting their joy. There was indiscriminate handshaking and congratulations.

This news is contained in a special despatch from Agram to the West-Deutsche Zeitung, Bremen, dated October 27.

In the evening, the despatch adds, 20,000 persons assembled before the building where the Slav National Council was sitting. The president of the council declared that the council was firmly resolved unwaveringly to concentrate all efforts upon creating an independent State of Serbia, Croats and Slovenes. The crowd uttered solemnly sworn to stand by the council's decision.

Vienna is threatened with a food crisis in the most acute form. The Vossische Zeitung hears that deputations of Austrians have gone to Berlin and Dresden to beg urgently for immediate assistance to avert the worst.

The Vienna municipality has only three weeks' ration left, and supplies, notably from Galicia, have been stopped by the Czech farmers and railway men. Other deputations have hurriedly gone to Agram, Prague and Budapest to do the same. The ultimatum to Austria is not to let the unhappy Viennese starve.

Unemployment is widespread in Austrian industries. The famous Skoda Arms and Ammunition Works has discharged 12,000 hands, owing to lack of raw materials.

## 2 U. S. FLIERS DOWNED TWICE IN WEEK; SAFE

### Bag Two German Planes in Encounters.

By the Associated Press.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY NORTHWEST OF VERDUN, Oct. 26 (delayed).—Shot down twice within a week by German airmen has been the experience of Lieut. Arthur Newell, Jr., Brooklyn, and Walter Ten Eyck, Jr., Brooklyn. Both times they landed within their own lines. They claim to have brought down two German machines in their encounters with the enemy. Lieut. Newell was observer and Lieut. Ten Eyck was pilot.

October 18, while accompanying the all-American bombing squadron, their plane was attacked from the rear by seven German planes. Lieut. Newell, at the machine gun, saw one of the Germans fall. The others continued firing and the gasoline tank of the American machine was pierced twice, but the momentum of the airplane prevented the gasoline from escaping and catching fire.

Wednesday Lieut. Newell and Ten Eyck were members of a day bombing squadron which flew over Buzancy. On their return they were attacked by three German machines and shot down one of them. The engine of their machine was pierced by a number of bullets and put out of commission, but the Americans landed safely south of Brielleux. Lieut. Newell was pierced twice, but the momentum of the airplane prevented the gasoline from escaping and catching fire.

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## T. R. WILL HELP GET VOTE FOR FIGHTERS

### Assails Wilson for Leaving the Question to the States.

Special Despatch to The Sun.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27.—Characterizing the disfranchisement of American soldiers fighting abroad as an "intolerable injustice" Theodore Roosevelt in a letter to E. B. Johns, editor of the American Army Gazette, made public to-night, pledged his enthusiastic support to the campaign to secure the vote for the members of the Expeditionary Forces, and took the President to task for not acting on Roosevelt's letter, sent from New York to the President, following:

"MY DEAR MR. JOHNS: I most heartily and cordially join with you in your appeal to the President to secure efficient action to do away with the disfranchisement of American soldiers on the battle front. The President recently made an appeal for enfranchising women on the ground that such enfranchisement was demanded as a war measure, and in the course of his speech he stated as a justification for demanding votes for women that it would be intolerable to submit to the disfranchisement of our soldiers."

The President has been misinformed or else he has not been informed at all by those who should have informed him as to the facts in the case, otherwise he would have known that as a matter of fact our soldiers are now actually disfranchised. It is useless to refer this matter to the separate States. We are dealing with the United States Army, and it is the duty of the United States Government to take the lead in action for the army of the United States.

"To refer the matter back to forty-six States is to invite and insure delay and injustice. I believe that the President should urge Congress to act, in the first place pointing out the method, and if this seems impracticable, then I earnestly advise that the President summon all the Governors of the States to a conference, presided at I suppose by them when I was President in order to secure prompt action in conservation matters in any event the national Government must take the lead in order to prevent the continuance of this intolerable injustice. Yours very truly, THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

## TO NAME POLISH SHIP 'WILSON'

### Subscriptions Started for Building Vessel at Danzig.

GENEVA, Oct. 27.—A campaign for subscriptions with which to build a Polish vessel at Danzig to be named after President Wilson has been begun in Poland. The Polish agency at Lausanne announces that the Mayor of Warsaw, Dr. Drazewski, is at the head of the movement.

## CALLS WILSON NOTE HARSH

### Most Humiliating Since Days of Napoleon, Says German Paper.

AMSTERDAM, Oct. 27.—Copies of the Frankfurter Zeitung which have been received here contain the following:

"The conditions in President Wilson's note are assuredly more humiliating than the days of Napoleon. We, therefore, must reflect seriously whether such conditions really are demanded."

DURING U. S. FLIER MISSING.

Lieut. Luke Falls to Return From Bombing Trip Near Verdun.

By the Associated Press.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY NORTHWEST OF VERDUN, Oct. 27.—Lieut. Frank Luke of Phoenix, Ariz., one of the most daring of the American aviators, has been missing since the night of October 20.

On that night he started out on a bombing expedition, and so far has failed to return.

## FRENCH CRUSH LAON LINE; GAIN 5 MILES

Continued from First Page.

to encounter obstinate resistance towards Tournai.

Scenes of intense activity everywhere are to be witnessed in the back area of the advance. Labor battalions drawn from all four quarters of the globe are at work strenuously making and mending roads, while eastward the moving flood of lorries, troops, guns, wagons and horses seems never ending.

## OFFICIAL REPORTS OF THE FIGHTING

LONDON, Oct. 27.—Following are the official reports of operations in France and Belgium, as issued by the several military offices.

BRITISH (NIGHT).—A hostile counter attack, preceded by a heavy bombardment, was carried out this morning against our line in the neighborhood of Englefontaine. The enemy was repulsed, leaving many dead. Our positions were maintained intact.

Another counter attack was launched in the afternoon against our position in the neighborhood of Arras. This was also repulsed with heavy losses. We captured a few prisoners.

There were patrol actions on different parts of the front.

BRITISH (DAY).—After a heavy bombardment yesterday evening the enemy delivered a determined counter attack in the neighborhood of Arras. On our left occupied positions on the railway immediately northwest of La Neuville. The attack was completely repulsed with great loss to the enemy. About fifteen and a half miles. Our advance at certain points exceeded eight kilometers in the course of the day.

Further south our troops are drawing near to the road between Guise and Marie, having attained the general line of Bertinmont Wood, Landry-et-Bertinmont, west of Fauquoy, Moncaule-Neuf and Montigny-sur-Crecy. We took numerous prisoners and captured considerable material.

Since October 24 the number of prisoners taken by the First Army has reached 3,700. In the booty taken by this army in the same period were twenty cannon and several hundred machine guns.

On the Serre front the Tenth Army in close liaison with the First, has energetically pressed the enemy northward. Enemy troops have occupied Crecy-sur-Serre and have been considerably beyond that point.

West of Chateau Porcien the fighting in the last two days has likewise compelled the enemy to abandon part of his holding position which he had still held between Herpy and Racourance. Our units are keeping in close contact and are continuing their progress.

FRENCH (DAY).—During the night the troops of the First Army repulsed their efforts along the entire front between the Oise and the Serre. The Germans, disorganized in the fighting yesterday, were compelled to fall back along the entire line toward the north. They abandoned the positions which they had occupied.

The French conquered Mont d'Origny, Origny-St. Renoit, Courmoulin and Chevreuil-Moncaule in the fastest time. A number of fortified positions in these villages. On the right French units crossed the Peron River and progressed toward the northeast, capturing Hill 117 and advancing 1,500 meters east of Richecourt. A number of prisoners also were taken in this action.

On the front of the Serre the Second Army, supporting the movement of the First Army, also made gains. We crossed the Serre east of Assis-sur-Serre and penetrated the German trenches.

East of Sissonne violent German counter attacks in the region of the Marquigny Forest were repulsed by our fire. Artillery fighting continued very lively on the front between Baugonne and Nanteuil-sur-Aisne.

The number of prisoners taken during the fighting of October 26 and 27 between Sissonne and Chateau Porcien is more than 2,450, including 11 officers.

GERMAN (NIGHT).—The day passed without great fighting operations.

GERMAN (DAY).—Army group of Crown Prince Rupprecht in Flanders. There are no special fighting operations to report. The enemy is continuing the destruction of Belgian villages behind the front. The popula-

## U-Boats Fly White Flag Off Norwegian Coast

CHRISTIANIA, Oct. 27.—Crews of vessels arriving at Stavanger report that several German submarines, each flying a white flag at its masthead, passed the island Saturday bound south, according to the Morgenbladet.

The submarines are believed to have been returning home from their operating bases.

## Daniels Shows How Their Radius Has Been Greatly Restricted.

LARGE FIELDS ARE LAID

More Than 540 Concerns in This Country Had Part in the Construction.

Special Despatch to The Sun.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27.—That the American navy has been playing an all important role in checking off the crews of German submarines from their home bases to the Atlantic was revealed for the first time to-day by Secretary Daniels. In cooperation with the British navy a gigantic ordnance construction plan known as the North Sea mine barrier has been perfected and carried out, barring many of the most important routes to the U-boats.

"For this project," said Secretary Daniels, "a new and improved type of mine, and the means of manufacturing and transporting overseas, large bases were established abroad for assembling the issuance to mine planters, a fleet of mine layers was sent and has been maintained in foreign waters a score of merchant vessels were fitted out and have been engaged in transportation of the materials from this country and a mine loading plant with a capacity of more than a thousand mines a day was erected and has been in operation for many months."

Plans for a North Sea barrier were first submitted to the Navy Department on June 12, 1917, about two months after America entered the war. Admiral Benson, chief of naval operations, once saw the possibilities of the plan and work was undertaken without delay. A mine particularly adapted for use against submarines was approved on July 18 and on July 30 plans for a British-American joint offensive operation were drawn up.

When Admiral Mayo, commander in chief of the Atlantic battleship fleet, went to Europe in August, 1917, he carried with him the plans which had the approval of Secretary Daniels. The British Admiralty made some modifications, but approved the general outline of the plan. In September he brought orders to proceed with the procurement of the mines.

"At first some officials looked upon the plan as impracticable," Secretary Daniels said to-day, "mainly on account of the immense amount of material required. The task was enormous. But the difficulties were overcome and the British and American authorities agreed upon the plan which has been put into effect."

To obtain the necessary quantities and to preserve due secrecy regarding its characteristics a radical departure from usual manufacturing methods was adopted. Naval plants did not possess the facilities for manufacturing more than 1,000 a month and these plants were congested with other work.

The expedient therefore was adopted of subdividing the mine into its many elements and having these elements made at different commercial plants. The parts to be finally brought together and assembled into finished mines at a mine depot. The work was divided among about 140 principal contractors and more than 400 subcontractors. The major portion of the work was done in automobile plants.

"While the mine itself was being placed in production a number of mines were converted into mine planters, a mine charging plant with a capacity of 1,000 mines a day was erected to load the mines on a special railway ship pier was taken over for the handling of mine material and other necessary arrangements made."

Added mine depots were fitted out for the assembling of mines and their issuance to the mine planters. A fleet of more than twenty merchant vessels taken over by the navy and fitted out for the sole purpose of transporting mine material overseas.

"Capt. R. B. Bellman accomplished the work of procuring, fitting out and assembling the vessels for mine planting. The task of fitting of mine bases overseas was entrusted to Capt. R. B. Bellman. The mine bases were taken over by the navy and fitted out for the sole purpose of transporting mine material overseas."

## "ON TO BERLIN" WILL SPUR ARMY CONTEST

### Novel Game by Troops at 9 U. S. Base Ports in France.

By the Associated Press.

TOULON, France, Oct. 26 (delayed).—An "On to Berlin" contest will be inaugurated among the American Army organizations at the nine base ports on November 3 to see which organization can most effectively and quickly reach Berlin together. But any port exceeding the previous weekly record will move much faster toward Berlin and, consequently, will arrive there, theoretically, much sooner than the others.

The scores of the individual bases will be displayed weekly in the Y. M. C. A. hut and will be supplemented by moving pictures, which will be shown in the entire American zone in France as well as in the United States. Prizes will be given for individual distinction and to squads and platoons at each port. The main prize will be a ten days vacation for the winning platoon of freight handlers.

The base port to reach Berlin first will win a pennant and colors for distinguished service in helping to beat the enemy. The winner's pennant has increased greatly with the extension of the lines of communication in the American zone of helping to keep the men at the front supplied with the necessities of life. The value of their work in keeping the American Army in fighting trim.

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